

Claims

1. Use of yeast extract in the manufacture of an oral composition to treat the effects of infection by enterotoxin-producing pathogens.

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2. The use of claim 1 wherein the effects include failure of gut epithelial integrity, diarrhoea and other COX-2 mediated effects.

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3. The use of claim 1 or 2 wherein the pathogen is *Clostridium difficile*, *Clostridium perfringens*, *E. coli*, *Leishmania donovani*, *Vibrio cholera*, *Salmonella typhimurium*, *Shingellae*, *Aeromonas hydrophila*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and/or enterotoxigenic *Bacteroides fragilis*.

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4. The use of any preceding claim wherein the oral composition comprises from 0.01 to 0.5% by volume of yeast extract.

5. The use of any preceding claim wherein the oral composition further comprises peptones, preferably in an amount of from 0.3 to 7% by volume.

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6. The use of claim 5, wherein the peptones are hydrolysates of whey protein with an average peptide size of not greater than 5 amino acids.

7. The use of any preceding claim wherein the oral composition further comprises meat extract, preferably in an amount of from 0.3 to 7% by volume.

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8. The use of any preceding claim wherein the oral composition is an adjuvant to a medicinal treatment.

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9. The use of any preceding claim wherein the oral composition is an infant formula or an enteral composition.